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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. European Solidarity Towards Equal Participation of People (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: European Solidarity Towards Equal Participation of People (Eurostep) is a network of autonomous European non-governmental development organizations working towards peace, justice and equality in a world free of poverty. Its members, rooted in their own societies, work together to influence Europe's role in the world, particularly in pursuing the eradication of injustice and poverty. It advocates changes in Europe's policies and practices based on the perspectives drawn from direct experiences of its active members and their partners in development in over 100 countries across the world. Eurostep members believe that the eradication of injustice and poverty and a more equitable distribution of resources are essential to achieve peace and stability in the world. These objectives can be achieved through concerted action and political will by governments, civil society and corporate sector actors in developed and developing countries. Europe has a key role and responsibility to foster an environment where people can live in peace and security, enjoy their basic rights and a sustainable livelihood with respectful use of the Earth's resources. Europe's responsibility extends beyond its own citizens, to the worldwide community as a whole, both for the current generations and for generations to come. Its social dimension works for the peaceful coexistence of all peoples so that they can flourish and so that inequalities, injustice and poverty can be eradicated.

Significant changes in the organization: Statute changes: The statutes of Eurostep were amended in 2007 to comply with changes in Belgian legal provisions governing international non-profit associations. These changes do not affect the mission, scope or governance structure of the organization.

Membership and resources: There have been some changes in membership, with an increased inclusion of NGOs from some of the 12 countries that joined the European Union in 2004 and 2007. In addition, Eurostep has been managing a Presidency Fund, established in 2005, to provide limited amounts of financial support to NGOs from the 12 countries. This fund is meant to strengthen their capacity to engage in dialogue on development policy and practice at the national and European Union levels. The Presidency Fund, financed by the Governments of Germany, Ireland and the Netherlands, funded 29 different actions carried out by NGOs from all 12 countries.

New organizational affiliations: Over the reporting period, Eurostep has increased its collaboration with global and regional civil society organization networks and coalitions as part of its strategy to strengthen the engagement of civil society organizations from outside Europe, particularly Asia, Africa and Latin America.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: In 2005, the following meetings were held at United Nations Headquarters: (a) civil society organization meeting with the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs on preparation of the Secretary-General's report for the Summit reviewing implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. The Director attended and made oral presentations; (b) informal hearings of the General Assembly with NGOs on the Secretary-General's proposals for the Summit. The

Director attended and made an oral presentation on the role of donors, and distributed a written text and publications on gender and development; and (c) at the World Summit — High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, a representative attended and made a statement at a round table and promoted issues relating to the role of donor countries. In 2006: (a) at informal interactive NGO, civil society and private sector hearings on the Mid-term Comprehensive Global Review of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, a representative attended and made an oral presentation at the hearing on the role of donors and distributed a written paper; and (b) at the Mid-term Comprehensive Global Review, a representative attended and promoted the importance of the involvement of civil society in implementation. In 2008: (a) at interactive hearings with civil society organizations on the preparations for the International Conference on Financing for Development, a representative attended and made an oral statement. There was also presentation of a written contribution in conjunction with other civil society organization networks; and (b) at the Millennium Development Goals High-level event, the Director attended and participated in parallel meetings.

The following meetings were held at other locations: In 2005: (a) Owning Development — Promoting Gender Equality in New Aid Modalities and Partnerships, in Brussels (United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) with support from the European Commission). The Director participated to promote research and analysis of studies published in early 2005. In 2008: (a) at the Third Regional Implementation Meeting on Sustainable Development (Economic Commission for Europe, Geneva). The Director participated to promote the importance of the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries; and (b) at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) XII Conference (Accra), the Director attended as part of the LDC Watch delegation to promote the importance of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries. In 2009: at the International Conference on Financing for Development (Doha), a representative attended and participated in civil society and other events, and presented and distributed a statement.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field: (a) Project with UNIFEM for research, drafting and publication of two reports in 2005 prior to the meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women. Studies focused on approaches to gender in the preparation and implementation of cooperation strategies by donors; (b) collaboration as part of LDC Watch with the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States on the promotion of a more active role for civil society actors in the implementation of the United Nations programmes of action, in view of the review of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries.

Activities in support of global principles included: (a) focus on the role of donors in providing increased resources and improving the enabling environment for development. As a European network the focus has been specifically the role of the European Union and its role in the world; (b) particular focus on promoting gender equality in cooperation strategies; (c) global partnerships pursued through strengthening partnerships with civil society networks and coalitions from all parts of the world, including Social Watch and LDC Watch.

2. Forum of Women's NGOs of Kyrgyzstan (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: The basic mission of the Forum of Women's NGOs of Kyrgyzstan (FWNGO) is the consolidation and strengthening of women's NGOs in order to achieve advancement of women, gender equality in society, women's empowerment, and an increase of women's participation in public life through their organizations. Main goals of the Forum include consolidation of the women's movement, development of the capacity of women's organizations, empowerment of women and their organizations, promotion of gender equality, and gender awareness creation. Another goal is the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Millennium Development Goals, and Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security. In addition, FWNGO works towards the integration of women's NGOs of Kyrgyzstan into the regional and global women's movement and strengthening of women's NGO networking. Main areas of work are: strengthening women's participation in political processes, elimination of violence against women, improving the economic status of women, and monitoring the implementation of international and national legislation that protects women.

Significant changes in the organization: While the main aims and objectives and the nature of its activities remain much as described in the submission of March 2005, FWNGO has expanded its monitoring areas and added monitoring of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Millennium Development Goals, Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and financing for development in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia. Furthermore, its advocacy role has been strengthened by initiating and holding a campaign called "50 days — 50 women for 50% in politics". A new long-term programme was launched to bring 50 local women into Parliament.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: Meetings related to the status of women were attended by representatives of FWNGO at United Nations Headquarters, New York: Commission on the Status of Women: forty-ninth and fiftieth sessions in 2005 and 2006, respectively. Representatives spoke and four representatives organized a parallel event.

In other countries: Tunis, 2005, World Summit on the Information Society.

Representatives spoke at the following events at United Nations Headquarters, New York: **2007**: (a) Commission on the Status of Women, fifty-first session; representatives organized a parallel event; (b) Security Council meeting: anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). **2008**: (a) Commission on the Status of Women, fifty-second session; in Bangkok, UNDP workshop on Central and West Asia regional consultations for the third High-level Forum of Aid Effectiveness; (b) forty-first session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

In other countries: **2007**: Hanoi; **2008**: Accra, Saint Petersburg, and in Geneva, forty-second session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Kyrgyzstan periodic reporting; representatives submitted a shadow report

and promoted recommendations for its inclusion into the Committee's concluding comments.

All events where representatives participated were featured in articles and reports in our newsletter for women's civil society community and general mass media and were disseminated regularly in reporting meetings with women's NGOs.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

2005: The President of the organization was a member of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) experts group meeting on Beijing+10 (Bangkok).

Since **2006**: Assistance from the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women, Commission on the Status of Women secretariat in preparation of the parallel events of FWNGO at sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women.

2007: Participant as member of the United Nations NGO-IRENE network activities.

2008: Funding from the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women, the Yvonne Hibbard scholarship, to attend the first week of the fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women was received by the organization representative.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals: The organization contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in the Central Asia geographical region. Major actions undertaken were the following: Goal 3. Promote gender equality and empower women. Target 3.3: proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments. Actions: development and implementation of the comprehensive multi-year programme on preparing 50 women to serve in parliament.

Activities in support of global principles: (a) In support of the global principle of gender equality, FWNGO continues to fight discrimination against women; (b) FWNGO monitored international obligations formulated in United Nations documents and adopted or ratified by Kyrgyzstan and Central Asian States; (c) monitored Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women implementation of articles 2 to 5, 7 and 16, General Recommendation 23, General Recommendation 19 and the concluding comments for the Kyrgyzstan country report in 2004 (on violence against women and women's participation in political processes). Actions: (a) FWNGO participated in a 16-day Campaign on Violence against Women designed for Kyrgyzstan, implementation and analysis; (b) held monitoring in seven Kyrgyzstan provinces of the Convention implemented over two and a half years; (c) visited, interviewed, surveyed data collection in seven Kyrgyzstan provinces — law enforcement officers, judges, prosecutors, state officials, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Police Academy; (d) Training of 45 Convention monitors; (e) development of list of issues and questions to Committee pre-session working group and shadow report writing and submission to Committee at forty-second session; two reports are available on CEDAW website; (f) four public presentations of the monitoring results of shadow report (on violence against women and women's participation in political processes) to state officials, members of the Parliamentary Committee, to NGOs community in 2008; (g) disseminations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women Concluding Observations; (g) monitored implementation of the Convention in Kyrgyzstan in the period 2006-2008 led to submission and

participation of shadow report at the forty-second session of the Committee. All major recommendations of the organization were included in the Committee's 2008 Concluding Observations for Kyrgyzstan. For women's NGOs, capacity development training sessions were organized in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia, national and international advocacy and lobbying. Forum of Women's NGOs of Kyrgyzstan has been a chair of the national working group on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security since 2007.

3. Fundación de Ayuda contra la Drogadicción (Special; 1989)

I. Introduction

Fundación de Ayuda contra la Drogadicción (FAD) is a private, non-profit, and non-confessional institution independent of any political affiliations and has an assistance-charitable character. FAD, whose Presidency of Honour is carried by Her Majesty the Queen of Spain, has as its fundamental mission the prevention of drug use and its consequences.

FAD, created in 1986, works on prevention of the risks of drug use and abuse through education programmes, counting for that reason on valuable social, scientific and intellectual support in the field of formal and non-formal education. FAD is currently occupying a distinguished place as a leader organization and as a referent in the interventions of the sector in Spain as well as in Latin America, where it has shared its experience and its model of intervention with 14 countries.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: The organization did not participate in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, in major conferences or other United Nations meetings during the reporting period because it focused its activities on the development and implementation of programmes of education for drug abuse prevention and in social awareness campaigns, as well as in expanding its knowledge on the matter, working mainly with governmental and local organizations in Spain as well as in Latin America. The organization would have performed much better in the implementation of United Nations programmes if not for the following problems, which are ongoing: information about international meetings and conferences was and still is very sparse and generally arrives too late to be included in plans and budgets. Scarce funds make attendance at international meetings very difficult, it is not possible for representative staff to participate in these meetings because the organization lacks the financial support required to attend meetings abroad.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

(a) Maintained contacts with the United Nations offices in Latin America in which it works: the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru; (b) Collaborated with UNODC in spreading activities in relation with the International Day Against Drug Abuse, such as including in FAD's web page in 26 June and dates

related, UNODC logo package sent for this purpose; spreading information in FAD's newsletters: "Boletin informativo" distributed in Spain (1,500), "Intercambio", Newsletter on Development Cooperation distributed in Latin America (3,000), "Boletin Intercambio Centroamerica" (1,500), distributed in Central America, and "Boletin Intercambio Región Andina" focused on that geographical area (1,500); (c) FAD is affiliated with the following international institutions: Fondation européene des services d'aide téléphonique drogues (FESAT), as founder member; UNODC, member; European NGO Council on Drug and Development, member; and European Action on Drugs (EAD), member.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: FAD has a number of initiatives to support the internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals. Its programmes in Central America and South America respond to the Millennium Development Goals, in particular: Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger: Target 2: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day. Actions: (a) strengthen the presence of children and teenagers in society in order to avoid social exclusion; (b) assure a complete education; (c) strengthen opportunities of employment through training; (d) strengthen cultural diversity in order to reinforce collectivity and the creation of new social relations; (e) apply programmes of drug abuse prevention which will increase the standard of life and will diminish the level of violence. Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women: Target 3: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015: (a) sensitize young people about women's role in society and about equality of opportunities, bearing in mind that women live in a marginal environment with few opportunities for social and economic participation; (b) promote the participation of women in society and their autonomy and training in order to provide them with equal opportunities to men's. Women have taken part in 60 per cent of each action; (c) build the role of women as citizens, both in the family and the community. Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability: Target 11: By 2020, have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers: (a) build safe houses, to anticipate contagious diseases, to promote maintenance of clean waters, to take care of beach areas and to promote respect for life and personal and family integrity; (b) report and train juvenile associations on these topics to help young people to develop as a social group.

Activities in support of global principles: FAD has realized several activities focused on emphasizing International Day Against Drug Abuse: (a) Media spreading through interviews (26) based on this subject in the main national and local radio stations; (b) events: prizes awarded for online competition "Salta Planetas", 8,000 participants (for prevention of alcohol abuse in young people 12-14 years old), and concerts organized specially for young people in which a declaration against drugs is stated, 1,500 attendants; (c) distribution, in different Spanish cities through press shops, of the FAD DVD "Todo sobre las drogas" (*All About Drugs*). Addressed to general population with the purpose of giving realistic and objective information about drugs and therefore contribute to creating attitudes against drugs (250,000).

All these actions have been reflected in the most important media in Spain, which have multiplied the repercussion of related events.

4. Fundación Mujeres en Igualdad (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: The main purpose of Fundación Mujeres en Igualdad (MEI) is to fight discrimination against women by promoting their social and political participation and empowerment. Advocacy and accountability campaigns and networks are implemented, as well as coalitions and alliances with NGOs, national and international groups of political, civil and social leaders and feminist organizations. MEI counteracts gender violence — most specially trafficking in women — through seminars, workshops and national/international forums and through ITC: listserves and websites.

Significant changes in the organization: Since the beginning of the twenty-first century the organization has addressed a cutting edge issue: "Gender and Corruption" (the impact of corruption on women's human rights). The project "Organizing Women against Corruption", funded by the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF), empowered the organization and created national and international awareness about the scope of its work. Its members are currently invited to participate in projects related to women's rights both by female and male partners and stakeholders and the scope of its operations has grown from national to international.

The organization's outreach has extended, and its sources of funding have increased through: (a) the organization of three women's forums against corruption: in 2008 (Law School, Universidad de Buenos Aires). Experts from the Americas, Africa, Asia and the European Union participated in the 2002 and 2008 forums, while the 2000 forum had mostly national participants; (b) panel presentations at the 12th and 13th International Anti-Corruption Conference — 2006, Guatemala City, and 2008, Athens, respectively.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: MEI attended the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Vienna, 2008). Representing Argentine NGOs and networks that combat trafficking in women and girls, the Executive Director presented a written statement requesting the amendment of the description of trafficking, as included in the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, by eliminating the term "consent" and the discrimination between "person" and "child".

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Financial assistance received from the UNDEF and implementation support by UNIFEM: the project "Organizing Women against Corruption" received $300,000 from UNDEF, 2006, first round of funding, and is being implemented with UNIFEM (2007-2009). Through this project MEI organized women in political parties and in civil society to fight forms of corruption that affect their rights, through four strategies: (a) monitor elections and political parties' financing to foster gender equity in political training and electoral campaigns and to develop advocacy

activities to favour democratic and gender-sensitive decision-making in the selection of women candidates, thus improving the quality of candidates elected through the Quota Law. Candidates are also encouraged to include issues related to gender and corruption in their platforms; (b) encourage access to public information through the "Women on the edge of information" Network that, once a month, receives guidelines to request gender-relevant information (on subjects suspected of corruption) of provincial or municipal governments throughout the country. An advocacy campaign for the Access to Information National Law to be passed will follow; (c) public information campaigns: mass media campaigns for each strategy. This is accompanied by some research to identify best gender-sensitive cases against corruption (bottlenecks and hurdles will also be included) in justice, security forces, government offices, business world and civil society; (d) Inter-American Forum of Women Against Corruption: 2008; (Law School, Universidad de Buenos Aires). Government officials, jurists, law enforcement officers, legislators, NGO members, entrepreneurs of the Americas met to identify anti-corruption strategies, tools and mechanisms with a gender perspective.

The organization would have performed much better in the implementation of United Nations programmes if not for the following problems: (a) scarce funds make attendance at international meetings very difficult; (b) sometimes the information is received too late to secure funding.

5. Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (Special; 2005)

1. Introduction

Aims and purposes of the organization: The Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+) is the only worldwide network representing all people living with HIV (PLHIV). As a network of networks, based on emancipation and self-determination, GNP+ nurtured the development of six fully independent regional networks of people living with HIV, covering Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, Latin America and North America. Elected representatives from these networks form the GNP+ Board, ensuring input and oversight from around the world. The unique role of GNP+ is to represent the diverse voices of PLHIV on the global stage. We offer intellectual leadership on key strategic issues and shape international debates by providing insights based on the practical experience of living with HIV. Our work spans five platform areas: sexual and reproductive health and rights; human rights; prevention; empowerment; and knowledge management and network renewal.

Significant changes in the organization: GNP+ is in the process of vigorously pursuing changes in its governance structure to ensure that the diverse voices of PLHIV influence the GNP+ strategies and programmes. GNP+ is undergoing the governance renewal process to ensure that the voices of PLHIV governing the organization also include other angles — i.e., certain key populations, gender, different age groups, etc. Furthermore, accountability within the organization's governance structure must be and will be incorporated.

Shift to objective-oriented programming: As of 2007, GNP+ has shifted its working method from activity-based to objective-oriented. This means that GNP+ has moved towards long-term planned programming, including results-based long-

term workplans. All GNP+ programmes are founded on themes identified in the Global Advocacy Agenda[1] and focused on gathering evidence, developing user-friendly tools, and informing programmes and policies at the national, regional and global levels.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: 2006: (a) Seventeen people living with HIV attended the High-level Meeting on AIDS, General Assembly special session review meeting on the Declaration of Commitment, held at United Nations Headquarters, New York. They attended under the GNP+ Economic and Social Council status and advocated for many issues, including the human rights and sexual and reproductive rights of PLHIV; (b) GNP+ participated at the WHO/UNAIDS Consultation on Provider-Initiated Testing and Counselling: and provided input into the initial guidance document, based on wide consultation with regional and partner networks.

2007: (a) GNP+ participated at the WHO/UNAIDS Consultation on Male Circumcision, at Montreux, Switzerland, and engaged with other civil society participants based on wide consultation with regional and partner networks; (b) there were two GNP+ participants at the UNAIDS Consultation on the Criminalization of HIV Transmission and recruited expert participants to sit on the Steering Committee of the Global Criminalization Scan.

2008: (a) At the High-level Meeting on AIDS, General Assembly Special Session, New York, four people living with HIV, including the GNP+ International Coordinator, attended under GNP+ Economic and Social Council status and once again advocated for many issues; (b) at the High-level dialogue between the United Nations and pharmaceutical companies at United Nations Headquarters, New York, the GNP+ International Coordinator was invited by the Secretary-General to present a keynote speech, which emphasized the need for affordable and easy-to-use paediatric formulations and second-line treatment, the importance of new prevention technologies and the crucial role the diagnostic companies have in making available affordable and easy-to-use viral load tests and including PLHIV in the design of trial protocols.

UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board, ongoing meetings: GNP+ provides ongoing support to NGO delegation board members from the Asia Pacific Network of People Living with HIV.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

2007: (a) Global Consultation on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of People Living with HIV in partnership with GNP+, UNAIDS, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), WHO, and multiple NGOs and PLHIV, held in

[1] The GNP+ main programme of work falls within the Global AIDS Alliance, which was established at the 1999 PLHIV Conference in Warsaw. The Global AIDS Alliance comprises three main areas of work: promoting access to prevention, care and treatment services; reducing stigma and discrimination; and increasing the meaningful involvement of people living with HIV. Greater Involvement of People Living with AIDS (GIPA) is an underlying tenet of all work that GNP+ undertakes.

Amsterdam; (b) GNP+ provided technical assistance to the UNAIDS Policy Brief: the Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV (GIPA); (c) PLHIV Stigma Index is implemented in partnership with UNAIDS and multiple NGOs. This ensured that the PLHIV Stigma Index was embedded in UNAIDS planning.

2008: (a) Advancing the sexual and reproductive health and human rights of people living with HIV: a guidance package developed in partnership with UNAIDS, UNFPA, WHO and multiple NGOs; (b) LIVING 2008: The Positive Leadership Summit, held in Mexico City, before the International AIDS Conference as an official pre-conference was developed in partnership with GNP+, WHO, UNAIDS, and multiple NGOs; (c) through the LIVING 2008 consultation process, GNP+ with UNAIDS, multiple NGO partners facilitated the development of four key policy positions by and for PLHIV; (d) the GIPA Report Card, a tool to measure the quality and level of implementation of the GIPA principle at the country level, was piloted in partnership with UNAIDS; (e) the Human Rights Count, a tool to document human rights violations against PLHIV, is currently under development. Partners in this programme include UNAIDS, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and UNDP (ongoing); among numerous other events and activities.

GNP+ is a co-organizer of key international and/or global events: The International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2008, Mexico) along with co-organizer UNAIDS and the World Food Programme (WFP) and multiple NGOs, 2008.

The HIV/AIDS Implementers meeting (in Kampala, 2008) along with co-organizer UNAIDS, WHO, World Bank, UNICEF, the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Malaria and TB, and multiple NGOs.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals: GNP+ contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in the following geographical regions: Asia-Pacific, South America, Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, and North America, particularly related to Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases (Target 1). GNP+ aims to achieve Goal 6 through a wide range of activities through our platform areas, as described above and Goal 5: Improve maternal health (Target 2), as described above.

Activities in support of global principles: (a) World AIDS Day was observed each 1 December by GNP+ in Amsterdam as part of the Netherlands Government World AIDS Day Congress; (b) The principle of Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV (GIPA)[2] is a basis for all GNP+ activities.

6. Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (Special; 1993)

I. Introduction

Aims and purposes: The main focus of IAC is the implementation of programmes at the community (in 28 African countries), regional and international levels for the eradication of harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation

[2] Adopted by 42 countries in 1994, Paris, and endorsed in 2001 through the United Nations General Assembly Special Session Declaration of Commitment by 189 Member States in New York.

through, inter alia, the following activities: capacity-building: providing technical assistance to empower its National Committees and to evaluate the impact of interventions. Operational research: development of a manual for youth training and guidelines for operational research; alternative employment opportunities. Media workshop: IAC acknowledges the important role media played in influencing the society to free women and girls from gender-based violence and harmful traditional practices; training information campaigns: to empower women. IAC also targets religious leaders and legislators through workshops and campaigns. Publications: IAC publishes its newsletter, reports of meetings, flyers, research findings indicators, manuals, guidelines, etc. Lobbying and advocacy: using its consultative status with the United Nations, WHO, the African Union and partnering with diverse NGOs, IAC has continued to lobby and advocate for the eradication of harmful traditional practices. It has made several interventions and has participated in the work of the Commission on Human Rights as well as the newly established Human Rights Council. IAC has been co-convening the NGO Working Group on Violence against Women for more than two decades. From 2000 to 2008, IAC served as Vice-President of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, and chaired the NGO Alliance on Health Promotion of WHO.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: 2005: (a) UNICEF "Reviewing laws, reinforcement, and recommendations to eliminate female genital mutilation", Zurich, Switzerland: IAC attended and lobbied to consolidate efforts to pass laws; (b) Committee on the Status of Women, forty-ninth session, New York: IAC participated to ameliorate the social and political role of African women; (c) UNICEF "Preventing diseases to allow children to grow up and survive", Addis Ababa: IAC participated and discussed the role of prevention to avoid diseases; (d) WHO sixth Global Conference on Health Promotion, Bangkok: IAC attended as an observer and lobbied for African women's right to health. Representatives attended the following meetings in Europe and in Africa related to the health and status of women: Brussels, Florence, Italy; Chain-Bourge Nancy, France, Geneva, Switzerland, Bamako, Dakar. 2006: (a) second international policy conference on violence against girls in Africa, Addis Ababa. IAC participated in discussions to pressure Governments to protect girls from female genital mutilation; (b) Commission on the Status of Women, fiftieth session, New York. IAC attended as an observer and participated in discussions promoting the importance of women's political participation to improve their conditions at all levels; (c) UNICEF round table, Florence, Italy. IAC participated in round-table discussions to promote the elimination of female genital mutilation in Europe and Africa; (d) Human Rights Commission consultations on intersections of culture and violence against women, Geneva. IAC made a statement on violence against women and harmful traditional practices; IAC representatives attended, inter alia, the following meetings in Europe, related to the health and status of women: (a) Belgium; Geneva; Vienna and Amsterdam. 2007: (a) Commission on the Status of Women sessions at United Nations Headquarters, New York: IAC participated in group discussions on violence against women, pointing out the importance of women's education in improving family conditions. IAC organized a parallel event on female genital mutilation; WHO and Médicins sans frontières, "Sexual and Reproductive Health Workshop", Geneva. IAC representatives attended, inter alia, the following meetings in Europe and in Africa, related to the health and status of women: Vienna; Belgium; San

Sebastian, Spain; Berne; Guernika Basque Country, Spain; Lugano, Switzerland; Copenhagen; Amsterdam; Abidjan and London. 2008: WHO Board session, IAC participated at that meeting and others: World Health Assembly (WHA), Geneva; OHCHR: sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Paris; United Nations preparatory organizational meeting for the Durban Review Conference, Geneva; the African Child Policy Forum, Addis Ababa. Representatives also attended meetings related to the health and status of women: in Geneva; Lausanne, Switzerland; Caraquet, Canada; Brussels; Berne, Sion, Switzerland; Cairo and Addis Ababa.